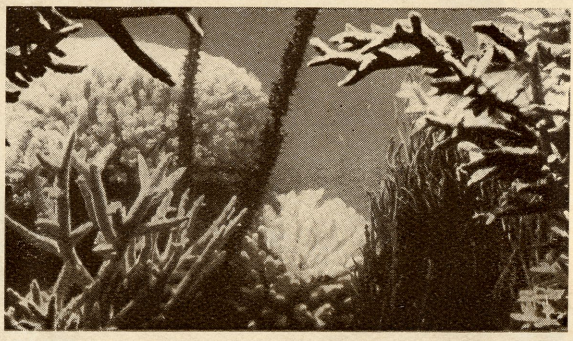
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THE Great Barrier Reef

Nature's Masterpiece



INCLUSIVE TOURS IN THE GRAND CANAL

with headquarters at

LINDEMAN ISLAND

WHITSUNDAY GROUP

via Mackay

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Arranged by the

Queensland Government Tourist Bureau

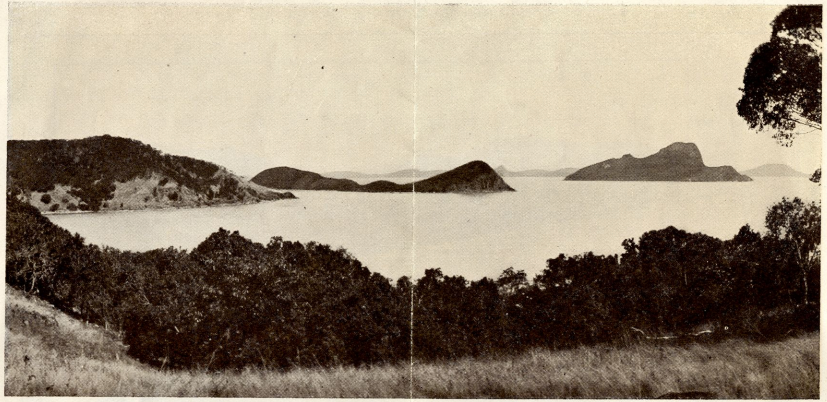
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MARTIN PLACE, SYDNEY QUEEN'S WALK, MELBOURNE

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Scenes in Whitsunday Passage

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THE GREAT BARRIER REEF : NATURE'S MASTERPIECE : INCLUSIVE TOURS IN
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Overlooking Pentecost (Lion) Island from Lindeman Island.

The Service

THE tours from Mackay to Lindeman Island are organised by reputable business men and leading citizens in Mackay known as Mackay Tours Ltd. Lindeman Island is occupied by Capt. A. D. Nicolson and his family and assistants.

Auxiliary launches, equipped with sails and internal combustion engines, or vessels of greater size, are used to convey parties between the mainland and Lindeman and for cruises to other islands. These are licensed to carry passengers and in the charge of certificated masters.

The accommodation on Lindeman Island consists of a bungalow, a combined dining-room and social hall, and several picturesque grass huts. The settlement is illuminated throughout with acetylene gas, and a well provides ample supplies of fresh water. The grass huts are of aboriginal design and in keeping with the romantic appeal of the island. Wire stretcher beds, mattresses, and bedding are provided, and the accommodation generally satisfies all reasonable requirements. Fresh-water showers are available, and running water is provided in some bedrooms.

The semi-open air dining-room is capable of seating a large number of guests, and a specially prepared floor is available for dancing. A radio receiving set, gramophone, and piano are provided for entertainment purposes.

The dining service is good and the meals well prepared. Parties of as many as fifty visitors have been catered for with attractive menus equal to hotel standard.

Small boats are provided for use off Lindeman Island, and waterscopes are available to view the coral gardens. An auxiliary launch is used to convey visitors on fishing trips and cruises to other islands.

An exclusive feature of Lindeman and one which greatly impresses tourists is the entertainment provided by two aboriginal boys. Their dexterity in swimming, diving, and the spearing of fish and turtles, their fund of native lore, and their naivete make them a star attraction.

Personal service is the keynote of Lindeman's popularity. Visitors to this "Robinson Crusoe" settlement quickly become one of the islanders, and having entered into their communal life experience a keen sense of loss as they reluctantly wave farewell and leave the dream isle of Lindeman for the sterner world of reality.

Lovely Lindeman

LINDEMAN Island lies like a gem in a perfect setting at the southern end of the famed Whitsunday Passage. It is about 50 miles north of Mackay and approximately 3 square miles in extent, wooded principally with pines and poplar gums, and rising to 712 feet. Bluff headlands, grassy slopes, delightful shady retreats, numerous secluded bays with sandy bathing beaches, a coral garden and reef are numbered amongst its attractions, and above all stands imposing Mount Olden, from which splendid vantage point is unfolded a seascape unequalled along the Queensland coast. Clusters of islands numbering as many as seventy break the calm surface of the ocean and fade into the horizon. Immediately below lies Kennedy Sound, lovely as a lake, with Seaforth Island mirrored in its glassy depths. Pentecost Island, like a lion couchant, rises majestically in the middle distance; a fringe of cocoanut palms silhouetted along the skyline marks the neck of Shaw Island, and at our feet there are the many delightful bays and inlets of Lindeman. To look upon this incomparable panorama of sea-girt isles is to experience a sense of elation that is long remembered.

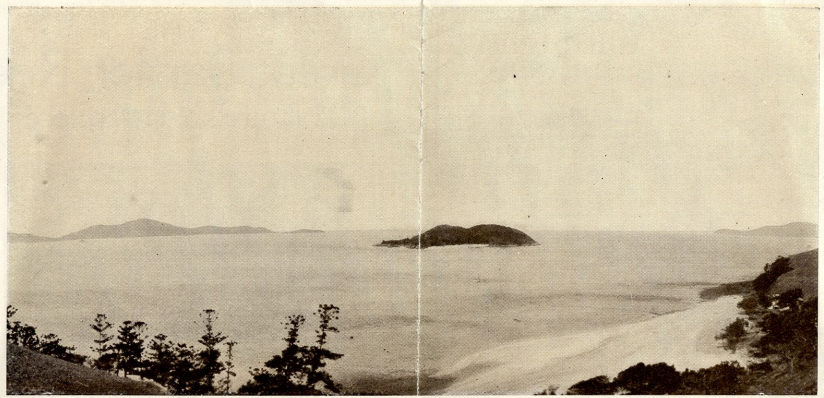
Immediately opposite the settlement is a safe bathing beach, and adjoining it a coral reef of great beauty. Floating over the crystal waters of this marine garden on a calm day the fortunate observer views a new world. Brilliantly coloured fish play in the miniature forests of coral; beche-de-mer, anemones, and sea urchins mark the mirrored depths, and on every side there are the exquisitely coloured corals, delicate as flowers, and in such profusion and variety that the sea bed becomes an entrancing kaleidoscope.

Within the reach of day cruises are many other islands, some with fringing coral reefs, and each with its own special appeal. The ethereal beauty of Cid Harbour, the vistas of loveliness in Shallow Bay, the crowded vegetation along the precipitous slopes of Whitsunday Island, the soaring peaks of Hook Island are so impressive that the memory of a holiday at Lindeman Island lives on when other vacations are forgotten.

Big fish and turtles abound in these waters. Trailing for mackerel is an exciting pastime, and the landing of one of these fighting fish a thrilling experience. Groper, trevalli, bonito, emperor, coral cod are other fish numbered amongst the many varieties caught around the islands. At the Christmas period the turtles come ashore to make their nests and deposit their eggs; at other times they may be seen in numbers near the islands and become the objects for feats of dexterity by the aboriginal "boys."

Interest never wanes on the Isles of the Grand Canal. Although of continental origin and within the Great Barrier rather than part of it, they have all the elusive charm of the coral islands and possess fringing reefs that are smaller but equally attractive. Their beauty is far more impressive, and the variety of interest and entertainment infinitely greater. To those in search of a care-free holiday they make a powerful appeal.

Away from the turmoil of the market place the mirrored isles of Whitsunday lie dreaming by the sun-kissed waters of a winterless sea. Invitingly, persuasively they are calling "Come away and Holiday."



Kennedy Sound and Seaforth Island from Lindeman Island

The Cost

MACKAY, the place of embarkation for Lindeman Island, is situated on the Main Northern Railway, 598 miles from Brisbane. A fast tri-weekly mail train service is provided from the North and South, and trains leave Brisbane at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, reaching Mackay at 8.5 p.m. the following days.

Specially reduced rail fares are quoted in connection with the tours, those from Brisbane to Mackay being—

1st class return—£6-10 0. 2nd class return—£4-0-0.

First class sleeping berths cost 12s. 6d.; second-class, 5s. 6d.; and seats 1s. 3d. each way. The booking of sleeping berths or seats is compulsory.

During the winter months interstate coastal steamers call at Mackay.

Passengers from the South must remain in Mackay overnight before proceeding to and after returning from Lindeman Island. Several hotels of a satisfactory standard are available, with tariffs ranging from 10s. to 16s. per day.

The cost of the launch trip from Mackay to Lindeman Island is £3 return. The tariff per week at Lindeman Island is £3 10s. Launch cruises to other islands are optional, but may be arranged at a cost of 10s. per head per day.

The inclusive prices for a tour from Brisbane (excluding cruises, meals *en route* to and from Mackay, and taxi hire) with a week at Lindeman Island, rail transport, sleeping berths, and accommodation at one of the best hotels in Mackay, are—

With first-class rail travel .. £15 3 0
With second class rail travel .. £11 19 0

In the event of inclement weather or other unavoidable circumstances delaying departure from or return to Mackay, tourists must bear the additional expense for accommodation there.

During the winter season (from May to September) a regular launch service is provided. At other times, when warranted, special arrangements are made to cater for visitors. Reduced rates are quoted for organised parties, and students and teachers receive special concessions. Inclusive tours for private parties are arranged at moderate cost.

Particulars of sailing dates and other detailed information may be obtained, and inclusive bookings made from starting points, upon application at any office of the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau.

Tourist 11.



F. Phillips, Govt. Printer, Brisbane.